Steps to Control Land Degradation

1641. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI K. M. KHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have taken any steps to create general awareness to reverse the process of land degradation and to accelerate regenerative capabilities of non-forest wasteland through preventive measures; and

(b) If so, the details thereor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT): (COL. RAM SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following measures are being undertaken on an on-going basis to create general awareness by the Department of Wastelands Development to reverse the process of land degradation.

—Publication of literature on wastelands development, important activities of the Department, Technology Bulletins, Phamplets to highlight specific projects.

—Making short-duration films on on-going wastelands development projects.

—Organising training for NGOs/ farmers/Natitnal Service Scheme (NSS) Coordinators and field level workers.

—Institution of a national award, namely, Rajiv Gandhi Parti-Bhumi Mitra Award' with the objective of according recognition to the tutstanding work done by individual and institutions for development of non-forest wastelands.

—Holding of seminars on important activities and schemes of the Department.

—Holding of training programmes on different schemes of the Department.

—Logo competition was held after the creation of the new Department.

—Through the print media new initiatives, activities and schemes of the Department are highlighted.

—Under the Grant-in-Aid scheme. 10 per cent. of the funds are earmarked for administratith & awaraness raising activities. Similarly a component under the Integrated Wastelands Development Project Scheme is meant for awareness raising and eliciting people's involvement. A specific programme also exists under the Eechnology Extension scheme fir holding farmers training and 'farm days'.

—Tapping the electronic media for wide coverage of activities of the Department.

—Participating in the multi-media campaign being organised by the Ministry of Rural Areas and (mployment.

Allocation of funds for reclamation of wasteland

1642. SHRI J. S. RAJU:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of funds allocated for reclamation of wasteland during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT): (COL. RAM SINGH): Afforestation/tree planting activity is carried out under point no. 16 of the 20 Point Programme on various categories of land including wastelands. Under point no. 16, schemes of the Central and State Governmentst

including Drought Prone Area and Desert Development Programmes, Employment Assurance Scheme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development programmes, Employment Guarantee Schemes for Horticulture etc. are implemented. The allocation of funds under this programme during the last 3 years is given in the Statement.

The National Wastelands Development Board is also taking up development of non-forest wastelands through its schemes listed below:

1. Integrated Wastelands Development Project Scheme
2. Investment Promotional Scheme
3. Technology Development, Extension and Training Scheme
4. Support to Non-Government Organisations/Voluntary Associations for Wastelands Development
5. Wastelands Development Task Force

Statement

Allocation of Funds for reclamation of wasteland during last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/Ut's	1992-93 Allocation	1993-94 Allocation	1994-95 Allocations
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	2510.52	3324.70	2579.47
2	Arunachal Pradesh	434.55	511.00	1324.00
3	Assam	1520.00	1217.00	
4	Bihar	2112.46	3381.46	4715.60
5	Goa	156.95	150.80	154.66
6	Gujarat	6713.93	6684.04	6881.12
7	Haryana	4576.57	3777.40	
8	Himachal Pradesh	4746.00	6063.13	
9	Jammu & Kashmir	1795.95	1108.02	
10	Karnataka	6157.87	7548.06	11513.51
11	Kerala	1215.00	695.05	330.00@
12	Madhya Pradesh	5512.96	7350.68	5800.98
13	Maharashtra	7624.11	8936.45	9825.86
14	Manipur	573.65	284.49	542.61
15	Meghalaya	1164.07	1084.20	
16	Mizoram	870.00	906.09	927.44
17	Nagaland	155 38*	150.11	

1	2	3	4	5
18	Orissa	4208.00	4069.50	
19	Punjab	1159.50	1672.70	308.3
20	Rajasthan	9583.00*	12550.44	14339.
21	Sikkim	383.87	364.82	
22	Tamil Nadu	4640.70	5199.39	
23	Tripura	1158.04	1163.63	861.
24	Uttar Pradesh	6790.16	9043.33	12983.
25	West Bengal	2880.00*	2098.30	
26	A & N Islands	116.25	114.85	127.
27	Chandigarh	30.00	170.00	
28	D & N Haveli	97.20	200.00	146.
29	Daman & Diu	13 00	13.00	22.
30	Delhi	281.00	197.00	193
31	Lakshadweep	16.00	16.50	
32	Pondicherry	91.33	131.00	92.
	TOTAL	79288.02	90177.14	73969.

*--Revised

@ Tentative

Estimate of Wasteland

1643. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest estimate of wasteland, indicating wasteland hectareage in Maharashtra, Madhay Pradesh and other States and Union Territories indicating the percentage of wasteland in each State, Union Territory and in the country as a whole;

(b) the extent of wasteland developed so far during the past two and a half years; and

(c) the details of the plan for ensuing year, State/Union Territor wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN T MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AN EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT) (CC RAM SINGH): (a) The Department Wastelands Development has comm sioned National Wastelands Identificati Project with the collaboration of t National Remote Sensing Agency. Unc this project 237 districts in the count having more than 5 percent of the ge graphical area as wastelands have be mapped. However, precise informati regarding the percentage of wastelands the whole country is not yet availab but according to one estimate, out of t country's total landmass of 329 milli hectares, the extent of wastelands in t